

CORRECTED VERSION

(19) World Intellectual Property  
Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
14 October 2004 (14.10.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 2004/087348 A1**

(51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: **B21D 53/08**,  
B23P 19/02

(21) International Application Number:  
PCT/IB2004/000995

(22) International Filing Date: 1 April 2004 (01.04.2004)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:  
0307465.5 1 April 2003 (01.04.2003) GB

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(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every  
kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM,

AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN,  
CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI,  
GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE,  
KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD,  
MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG,  
PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM,  
TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM,  
ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every  
kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH,  
GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW),  
Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), Euro-  
pean (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR,  
GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK,  
TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW,  
ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

— with international search report

(48) Date of publication of this corrected version:

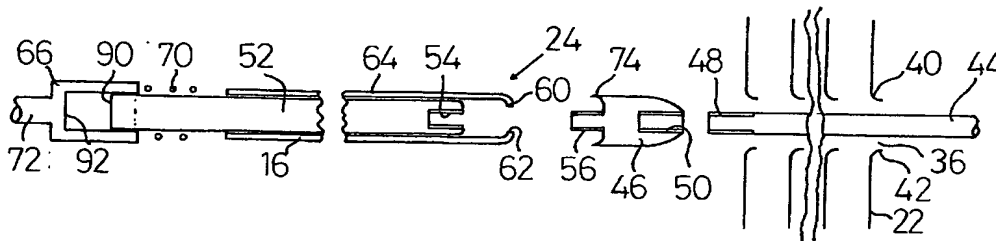
2 June 2005

(15) Information about Correction:

see PCT Gazette No. 22/2005 of 2 June 2005, Section II

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guid-  
ance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the begin-  
ning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: TUBE FINNING MACHINE AND METHOD



(57) Abstract: This invention relates to a tube finning machine (10) and to a method of use thereof. Typically, the finned tubes will be for use in heat exchangers. In the present invention, the machine (10) has tensioning means (32, 44) for applying tension to the tubes (16) during the finning process, tension in the tubes reducing the likelihood that the tubes will buckle or deform during the process. Also, the invention discloses the use of a solid material introduced between the fins (22) to support the fins during the finning process, the solid material being removed after completion of the process. The solid material can be a granular material, or it can be a continuous material introduced (and removed) in its liquid state.

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